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**ILLINOIS ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY**

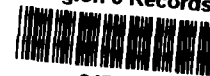
1021 North Grand Avenue East, P.O. Box 19276, Springfield, Illinois 62794-9276

Mary A. Cade, Director

(217)524-1663

September 21, 1998

EPA Region 5 Records Ctr.



247060

Mr. Don Bruce
Chief, Response Section II
Emergency Response Branch
United States Environmental Protection Agency
77 West Jackson Street
Chicago, Illinois 60604-3590

Dear Mr. Bruce,

As a follow-up to our telephone conversation on September 21, 1998, I am writing to request that the Region 5 Offices of the United States Environmental Protection Agency consider the assignment of an On-Scene Coordinator to the Tilton Plating Company site located in the Village of Tilton, Illinois. Tilton is located just south of Danville.

The Tilton Plating Company is located on a 0.5 acre parcel of property which includes a dilapidated 40 X 40 foot building. Drums and other containers are found inside and outside of the building. Attached is a summary of material found during a September 15, 1998 visit and pH values from the laboratory. Confirmatory samples were sent to Illinois EPA's Division of Laboratories and their results are pending. Due to the extremely low pH values and the fact that a residential property is adjacent to the site, an immediate threat may exist at this location. As always, the Illinois EPA will provide any assistance we can to U.S. EPA regarding this matter.

Please contact me at the above number to schedule any removal assessment activities. Thank you for the consideration and we look forward to working with U.S. EPA in these and future removal activities.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bruce Everetts", written in a cursive style.

Bruce Everetts
Remedial Project Manager
Site Assessment Unit
Federal Sites Remediation Section
Bureau of Land

bcc: Neelu Reddy

The Tilton Plating Company consists of a half acre site with a forty by forty foot building on the property. The building has been condemned by the Village of Tilton. There is a drainage ditch to the north of the building, a deep ravine to the west, to the east is a driveway which leads to Fairfield Road, and to the south is a residential home. Soil samples were collected from the area by a drill rig on April 18, 1995 by the Illinois EPA. These sample results show contamination of the soil of the site and surrounding properties. High levels of barium were found around the whole site. Hazardous level of lead, cadmium, chromium and barium were found behind the building, along the west edge of the boundary. High levels of barium were also found east, across Fairfield Road on residential property.

An Illinois EPA site investigation was conducted on September 15, 1998. The building contents include: several vats, drums and various chemical containers. Some of the chemical containers had no labels and therefore were not disturbed. An approximate building inventory:

- Container of potassium cyanide
- Container of copper sulfate
- Container of ammonium hydroxide
- Container of solution N75
- 3 glass jars of N28 solution
- 7 55-gallon drums. The label on one or more of the drums indicated Andic Stripper
- Container of zinc cyanide
- 5 gallon bucket marked corrosive
- Vat containing about 6 inches of a green liquid
- Vat containing about 1 foot of a blue liquid
- Vat containing a solid mass of a white crystalline substance
- 12 gallon garbage can contained a bag of boric acid
- 30 gallon trough with sludge type material
- Unknown contents of salvage drum
- 10 gallon pail of chromic acid
- 1 gallon jug, half-full marked phosphoric acid
- 5 gallon pail, oily substance
- 100 gallon vat - unknown substance, crystals forming on sides
- 5 gallon bucket - 1/2 water, 1/2 very hard substance
- 30 gallon vat, inch of water on top of white powder
- Auto batteries
- Paint remover
- Bluish staining on floor

Outside of building to the north:

- 55 gallon drum marked Hydrochloric Acid
- 55 gallon drum marked Phosphoric Acid
- 55 gallon drum marked Formaldehyde
- 55 gallon drum marked Muratic Acid
- 2 25 gallon containers wrapped in wood stakes
- Approximately 10 other drums, unknown whether empty or not

XRF readings were conducted on the soil to the west and east of the buildings. Attached are the readings. The highest readings are as follows:

Mo: 177.2	Zr: 396.2	Sr: 361.2
Rb: 153.2	Pb: 1729.6	Hg: 78.3
Zn: 3737.6	Cu: 1715.2	Ni: 4332.8
Fe: 44595	Mn: 1950.4	Cr: 3980.8

Confirmation samples were sent to the lab to be analyzed for total and TCLP metals. These results will not be available for about 6 weeks.

Several of the vats inside the building and drums outside the buildings were sampled. Awaiting results. The drums and vats were to be analyzed for TCLP analysis for all organics, VOC analysis, total metals, pH, reactivity, ignitability, corrosivity, pest/PCBs, and SVOCs. There is free access to the outside drums and the building had free access also. The building has now been sealed with a single board across the big doors, but may still be accessible through the single door.